

101-103 North George Street (Direct Hotel)  
York  
York County  
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-569

HABS,  
PA,  
67-YORK,  
3A-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

## HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. PA-569

101-103 NORTH GEORGE STREET (Direct Hotel)

Location: 101-103 North George Street, York, York County,  
Pennsylvania. (corner of North George and  
Philadelphia Streets)

USGS York Quadrangle, Universal Transverse Mercator  
Coordinates: 18.352510.4425100.

Present Owner: Dispatch Publishing Company.

Present Occupant: Vacant.

Present Use: Vacant; to be demolished 1979.

Significance: This nineteenth century commercial building was  
adapted for use as a hotel in the mid-twentieth  
century. It is an integral part of the historic  
streetscape of North George Street.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

## A History of the Structure:

The first structure on this lot was an eighteenth century stone building erected by Christian Wampler. An early nineteenth century painting by Lewis Miller, a local folk artist, shows a two-and-one-half story stone or brick gable-roofed building on the corner of George and Philadelphia Streets, labeled the "Philip Mayer house and store." By 1813, a brick structure stood on the lot, as indicated by the deed of sale from Philip Meyer to William Jones. In 1868, after several changes in ownership, John F. Thomas, Thomas Holland, Adam S. Pflieger, William Chambers and James H. Hause converted the building into a hardware-grocery-tobacco store, called Thomas, Chambers and Company. During the ownership of William W. Groff (1923-1932), the building served as the Farmer's Bank of York, the Hotel Saint George, and the Buehler Meat Market. Between 1946 and ca. 1966, the structure contained the Direct Hotel and Direct Hat Shop. It has been vacant since ca. 1975.

The following is an incomplete chain of title to the land on which the structure stands, compiled from Legal Records, Deeds, in the York County Court House. Dates following individual names refer to the year of purchase.

Christian Wampler (1749) (stone house)  
George Ernest Meyer (1773) (tavern, store)  
Philip (Myer) Meyer (1805)  
William Jones (1813) (brick house)  
James Bucher (1868)  
J.F. Thomas, T. Holland, A.S. Pflieger, W. Chambers,  
J.H. Hause (tenants-in-common) (1868)  
J.F. Thomas, T. Holland, A. Pflieger, W. Chambers (1874)  
J.F. Thomas (J.H. Thomas, Executor) (1877)  
Charles P. Young, William L. Young, E.S. Brooks (1910)  
Laura C. Young, W.L. Young, E.S. Brooks (1912)  
Laura C. Young, W.L. Young (1913)  
William Young (1914)  
J. Emanuel Smith (1922)  
W.W. Groff (1923)  
J. Howard Manifold (Sheriff) (1932)  
York Trust Company (1932)  
Norman B. Kochenour (1943)  
Charles & Sue Sullenberger (1940)  
Sue Sullenberger (widow)  
Lux Hotel Co. (1963)  
W.C. McKinley (Sheriff) (1966)  
Gene L. Cohen (1966)  
Geneco Co. (1969)  
Ed Sax (1971)  
York Dispatch (1977)

B. Bibliography:

Turner, Robert P. (ed) Lewis Miller Sketches and Chronicles.  
York, Pennsylvania: York County Historical Society, 1966.

Prepared by Roark M. Mitzell  
Historic York, Inc.  
for the city of York,  
Pennsylvania  
April 1979.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

This three-story rectangular brick structure measures 37' x 129'. It has limestone foundations and is framed in heavy timber and steel. There is a slate roof and a full wooden entablature with double brackets supporting the cornice. There are wood, metal and glass shop fronts on the first floor on both the George Street (front) and the Philadelphia Street elevations. The second floor facade has six bays. The six-over-six light double-hung sash windows are topped by brick relieving arches. The first floor contains two stores facing George Street, a hotel lobby, and offices. The second and third floors contain hotel rooms.

Prepared by John R. Schein, Jr.  
Historic York, Inc.  
for the city of York, Pa.  
April 1979.

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the city of York, Pennsylvania in compliance with Executive Order 11593 and a Memorandum of Agreement with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation as a mitigative effort in the project to demolish four structures in the York Historic District. John A. Burns, AIA, was the HABS project coordinator. Photographs were taken by John R. Schein, Jr. in 1979. The records were edited and prepared for transmittal by Emily J. Harris, an architectural historian in the HABS office in October 1979.